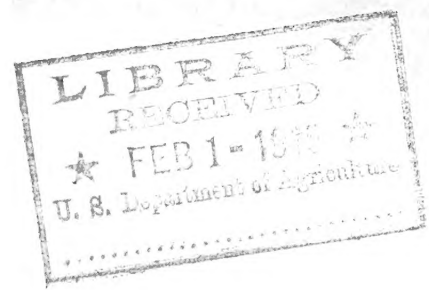


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NEWS LETTER

OF THE

BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

NUMBER 7.

OCTOBER, 1914.

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New Books.

The Department of Agriculture issued July 1, 1914 an 8-page pamphlet entitled "Preparation of articles for the Journal of Agricultural Research". This is being followed in the preparation of all contributions to the Journal of Agricultural Research and has been followed for all list of references in publications emanating from the Bureau of Entomology appearing in the Department Bulletin series and as Farmers' Bulletins since that time. If members of the Bureau would use this in preparing their manuscripts it would greatly facilitate the editorial work. Copies may be obtained from Mr. Karl F. Kellerman, Chairman, Editorial Committee, Journal of Agricultural Research, Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

U. S. Superintendent of Documents. Price Lists.

No. 15 U. S. Geological Survey publications.

No. 16 Farmers' Bulletins and Yearbooks.

No. 41 (ed. 5.) Insect pests and how to fight them. Sept. 1914.

No. 55 National Museum publications.

No. 56 Smithsonian Institution reports.

Program of work of the U. S. Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year 1915. 278 pp. Prepared July 1, 1914.

West Indies Imperial Department of Agriculture. Pamphlet series.

No. 72 Lime cultivation. 136 pp. Issued by the Commissioner of Agriculture, 1913. Chapter VII. Insect pests and fungus diseases, pp. 39-66. illus.

No. 75 Sugar-cane pests in the Leeward Islands, by H. A. Ballou. 45 pp. illus. 1914.

Kansas State Agricultural College, Manhattan, Kansas. Agricultural Education vol. 6, no. 2, Dec. 1913. Insects injurious to fruits, by Geo. A. Dean and Leonard M. Peairs.

Indexes.

The Bureau Library maintains a card index of articles one or more pages in length on insects mentioned in publications of the Bureau. This index is in 3 parts. (a) an alphabetic author list of the various publications of the Bureau. (b) a subject index alphabetic by the scientific names of the insects and (c) an alphabetic index of the common names of the insects. A list of the publications of the Bureau in series e.g. Bulletins 1-127, Circulars 1-173 etc is also maintained.

The librarian asks that all members of the bureau take care to leave books charged to them from the library in very accessible places if they are called out of town for two or three days. If it is necessary or desirable to take a book or number of a periodical with one on such a trip please always notify the library, in order that useless hunts for "lost" books may be avoided.

BUREAU PUBLICATIONS.

An Index to cover Bureau Circulars, Nos. 101 to 173 inclusive, similar to that issued on November 2, 1911 (Circulars 1 to 100) is in the course of preparation and will be issued in the future.

BEE CULTURE INVESTIGATIONS.

E. F. Phillips, In Charge.

An inexpensive electric oven was recently purchased which is capable of maintaining any temperature desired from slightly above room temperature to above boiling point, with a constancy of about one degree Centigrade. This may be used as an incubator or paraffin embedding oven.

The apparatus used in the investigation of bees in winter at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, during the past two winters has been moved and is now installed in the laboratory at Drummond, Md. A small room has been fitted up as a "bee cellar" in the basement in which the temperature changes will be slow, the room being completely surrounded by planer shavings one foot thick. The wiring for the temperature readings is now being installed, thermo-couples being used for this purpose. The special scales for taking hourly weighings of a colony of bees during winter have been installed in a room on the first floor of the laboratory and arranged to weigh a colony in the basement.

Dr. E. E. Phillips will leave about the middle of November to attend meetings of various State beekeepers' associations in Indianapolis, Ind., Ames, Iowa, Springfield, Ill., and Madison, Wis.

Dr. Jas. A. Nelson has completed his work on the development of the honeybee in the egg on which investigation he has been engaged for some time. The paper will be published outside the Department.

The National Beekeepers' Association will meet in Denver, Colo., in February 1915.

The death of the celebrated Swiss beekeeper Dr. U. Kramer is announced.

Dr. Burton N. Gates, formerly of this bureau, is now Assistant Professor of Beekeeping at Amherst, Mass. He is president of the National Beekeepers' Association.

DECIDUOUS FRUIT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS.

A. L. Quaintance, In Charge.

Mr. E. J. Newcomer has arrived in Washington from the Wenatchee, Wash., field station.

Mr. H. B. Scammell will spend the winter at his headquarters, Pemberton, N. J., where he will make observations in connection with investigations of cranberry insects, giving special attention to questions connected with flooding of cranberry bogs, hibernation of cranberry insects, etc.

The biological investigations in California of the grape Phylloxera have now been pretty well completed, and Mr. W. M. Davidson will

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DECIDUOUS FRUIT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS. (Continued)

spend the winter in Washington, and will be engaged in the preparation of his report and necessary illustrations. The field work with remedial measures against the Phylloxera will be continued under the direction of Mr. R. L. Nougaret.

The studies of the codling moth in Maine, carried out during the past two years under the direction of Messrs. E. H. Siegler and F. L. Simanton, have been completed and a report, giving the results of the work, will be prepared the present winter. It is planned to continue the laboratory in Maine, and to give special attention to investigations of the apple bud-moth and apple maggot.

Mr. R. A. Cushman, who is engaged in an investigation of Hymenopterous parasites of the grape berry moth and other deciduous fruit insects at North East, Pa., is just now on a trip of investigation through Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, and will later visit the New England States to determine the distribution and seriousness of the apple seed Chalcis.

Mr. A. J. Ackerman has spent the late summer and fall at West Chester, Pa., in a careful study of the cause of stop-back of peach. His observations indicate that this is largely due to attack by the tarnished plant bug, and that the peach bud-mite (Tarsonemus waitei), is perhaps but little, if at all, concerned.

Mr. Quaintance has returned from his western trip, where he visited various field stations.

PREVENTING SPREAD OF MOTHS.

A. F. Burgess, In Charge.

The Boston Domestic Science and Pure Food Exposition was being held at Mechanics Building, Boston, Mass., during the month of October. A large Government exhibit was installed, including exhibition of different activities of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. In connection with this exhibit a special display was prepared by the Gipsy Moth Branch of the Bureau of Entomology. This included maps showing the infested district which is under quarantine on account of the gipsy moth and the brown-tail moth, and the areas where parasites have been colonized and recovered are also illustrated. Several trays containing live parasites breeding on gipsy-moth eggs and a display of live Calosoma beetles are also included. Posters and post cards, illustrating the gipsy moth and the brown-tail moth, together with some of their imported natural enemies, are being distributed. A large number of visitors have shown a great deal of interest in the exhibit. Mr. R. Wooldridge, who is stationed at the Gipsy Moth Laboratory, Melrose Highlands, Mass., is in charge of the gipsy-moth exhibit.

Four men were appointed to the position of Scientific Assistant: D. W. Jones, H. A. Preston, J. V. Schaffner, Jr., and W. B. Turner.

Sixteen men were appointed to the position of Gipsy-Moth Assistant: W. A. Collins, I. L. Bailey, C. W. Minott, H. W. Vinton, D. G. Murphy, E. A. Proctor, A. M. Wilcox, L. E. Gibson, K. W. Brown, H. R. Gooch, A. W. Young, W. A. Shinkwin, H. I. Winchester, H. E. Partridge, C. B. Russell, and D. D. Landers.

These appointments were the result of an examination held on April 14 for Scientific Assistant, and on June 3 for Gipsy Moth Assistant.

SOUTHERN FIELD CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS.

W. D. Hunter, In Charge.

D. L. Van Dine has returned to Washington from his field station at Mound, La. During the season he made a careful study of the relation of malaria to agriculture. In this work detailed information was obtained regarding the incidence of malaria and the time loss in each of seventy-four families. A study was also made of mosquito density in the various classes of habitations and the breeding places in the immediate vicinity of the houses were determined. An experiment was performed on a considerable scale in removing the cans, bottles and other receptacles in the vicinity of houses, and filling disused wells and old cisterns to determine the effect of such measures on mosquito density.

H. A. Morgan, dean of agriculture in the University of Tennessee, made a trip to Louisiana during the month at the request of the bureau. He visited the laboratories of Mound, Tallulah, and New Orleans. W. D. Hunter accompanied Professor Morgan on this trip, and also visited the laboratories at Dallas and Victoria, Tex.

During the month a report on the occurrence of the pink boll worm of cotton at Madison, Fla., was received. Immediate steps were taken by several offices in the department to eradicate the pest, but it was found on investigation by W. D. Pierce that the insect was Batrachedra rileyi which occurred in unusual numbers in bolls affected by the anthracnose disease.

R. W. Moreland and G. A. Runner have been detailed to examine cotton fields in the vicinity of mills which have recently received foreign cottons to determine whether the pink boll worm has become established.

H. C. Eagerton a collaborator of the bureau in South Carolina, has accepted a position as assistant Entomologist in the Cuban Experiment Station.

W. D. Pierce investigated the dispersion of the boll weevil in the eastern part of the cotton belt early in the month, and later began working along the same line west of the Mississippi River. The work in the east is being conducted by F. L. McDonough.

G. N. Wolcott has returned to Porto Rico to take up the position recently vacated by T. H. Jones.

T. E. Holloway has recently investigated the status of parasites of sugarcane insects at Brownsville, Tex. W. C. Loftin is engaged in the study of the extent of injury to sugar cane in the eastern states.

A. W. Jobbins-Pomeroy left for England on October 28. From London he will proceed to his post in Southern Nigeria in a short time.

F. C. Bisnopp made an extended trip to the Dakotas and other states in connection with reports of heavy loss arising from insects which attack horses and cattle.

The work on the control of the house fly which has been under way in Washington during the season will be conducted at New Orleans for several weeks. E. R. Barber will conduct the experiments at New Orleans. Mr. Hutchison will complete the work at Washington and inaugurate an extended series of experiments to determine certain points about the hibernations of the fly.

D. L. Van Dine will present a paper on his work on malarial mosquitoes at the meeting of the Southern Medical Association at Richmond, Va., on November 9.

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